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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF

TOSHIHIRO TAKAHASHI, ET AL.

SERIAL NO: 10/724,997

FILED: DECEMBER 2, 2003

FOR: VEHICLE STEERING CONTROL
APPARATUS

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: EXAMINER: WEISKOPF, M.

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: GROUP ART UNIT: 3661

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REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

In response to the Office Action dated July 3, 2006, Applicants request the reconsideration of the rejection of claims 1-9, 11, 12, 14 and 15 for the reasons set forth below.

The claims were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102 as being anticipated by U.S. patent publication 2004/0040778 (Katou et al). It is noted that this application was filed on August 18, 2003, which is subsequent to Applicant's convention priority date of December 2, 2002. Applicants are at this time submitting an accurate English translation of their priority application 2002-349893 for perfecting their convention priority date. The rejection based upon Katou et al is therefore believed to be moot.

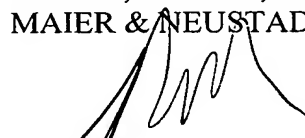
Claims 10 and 13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being obvious over Katou et al in view of U.S. patent 6,820,715. Since this rejection also depends on Katou, it is also believed to be moot.

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Applicants therefore believe that the present application is in a condition for allowance and respectfully solicit an early Notice of Allowability.

Respectfully submitted,

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